

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 11752 180851Z

17

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

----- 096951

R 180706Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8050

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

CONFIDENTIAL ISLAMABAD 11752

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PK, IN

SUBJECT: BHUTTO'S CONCERN OVER PRESS REPORTS FROM INDIA RE
ARMS SUPPLY

1. AS TIME GOES BY, WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE DOUBTS HERE
THAT ARE DISTURBING AS TO THE REAL INTENTIONS OF THE U.S.
AS REGARDS OUR ARMS SUPPLY POLICY. REPORTS ARE BEING SPREAD
HERE THAT WE HAVE MADE A SECRET "DEAL" WITH INDIA AT THE
EXPENSE OF PAKISTAN.

2. LATE LAST WEEK AGHA SHAHI SAID HE WANTED TO BRING A
MATTER TO MY ATTENTION AT THE SPECIFIC REQUEST OF BHUTTO.
HE SAID THAT BHUTTO HAD NOT FORGOTTEN YOUR MESSAGE TO HIM,
JUST PRIOR TO YOUR VISIT TO DELHI, THAT HE SHOULD NOT
BECOME UNDULY UPSET AT EXPECTED DISTORTIONS IN THE PRESS
THAT MIGHT ARISE OUT OF YOUR TALKS WITH INDIAN OFFICIALS.
BHUTTO SAID HE HAD ACCEPTED THAT ADVICE AND HAD NOT BECOME
CONERNED AT WORRISOME COVERAGE IN THE INDIAN PRESS. BHUTTO
WANTED MY ATTENTION CALLED, HOWEVER, TO AN ARTICLE BY
MURRAY MARDER OF THE WASHINGTON POST, DATED OCTOBER 28,
FROM NEW DELHI. THIS PARTICULAR ARTICLE (WHICH DEEPLY
CONCERNED US HERE JUST PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL) SPEAKS OF YOUR
PRIVATE TALK WITH INDIRA GANDHI, AND THEN STATES AS FOLLOWS:
"AMERICAN DIPLOMATS HERE ARE TELLING INDIA THAT ITS NUCLEAR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 11752 180851Z

EXPLOSION HAS HEIGHTENED PAKISTANI DEMANDS THAT THE U.S.

RESUME THE SUPPLY
OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH HAS BEEN
RESTRICTED SINCE THE INDIA-PAKISTAN WAR OF 1965. IF INDIA
IS COOPERATIVE ABOUT BARRING THE EXPORT OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY,
AMERICAN DIPLOMATS IMPLY, THE UNITED STATES MAY BE MORE
RESISTANT TO BHUTTO'S APPEALS FOR ARMS." SHAHI SAID THAT
BHUTTO WANTED ME TO KNOW THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER IT SERIOUS
IF AMERICAN DIPLOMATS IN DELHI WERE MAKING SUCH REMARKS
AS QUOTED IN THIS AMERICAN PRESS REPORT. BHUTTO HAD TOLD
SHAHİ THAT HE HOPED I WOULD REPORT HIS CONCERN TO YOU.

3. I TOLD SHAHİ I WOULD INDEED DO SO, BUT IN THE MEANTIME
WOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: 1) THIS PARTICULAR QUOTE
WAS INCONSISTENT WITH YOUR OWN REMARKS WHILE HERE
TO BHUTTO, AND THAT I THOUGHT YOUR DIRECT WORDS SHOULD
BE WHAT COUNTED; 2) FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN OF INDIA
HAD PUBLICLY INDICATED THAT THE QUESTION OF U.S. MILITARY
SUPPLY TO PAKISTAN WAS AN ITEM UPON WHICH AGREEMENT HAD NOT
BEEN REACHED. I ALSO SAID THAT I KNEW IT TO BE A FACT THAT YOU
WERE IRRITATED AT THE TIME OF YOUR ARRIVAL HERE OVER SOME
OF THE REPORTING OF THE AMERICAN PRESS RE YOUR STOP-OVER
IN DELHI.

4. PERHAPS EVEN MORE DAMAGING IN THE LONG-RUN IS A REPORT
TO DAO FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE OF REMARKS MADE BY A SENIOR
OFFICIAL OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN A SECRET LECTURE HERE
LAST WEEK BEFORE THE NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE. HE REPORTEDLY
DESCRIBED PAK-U.S. RELATIONS AS BEING DEFINITELY "NOT ON THE
UPSWING." HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN IN HIS LECTURE THAT THE
BAD SIGNS HAD COME IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR TRIP TO SOUTH
ASIA. HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THEY HAD INFORMATION THAT
JUST BEFORE YOUR TRIP AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE HAD LEARNED
THAT SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES HAD REQUESTED INDIAN TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE IN THEIR NUCLEAR PROGRAMS. HE SAID THAT WHILE
YOU WERE IN DELHI, YOU WERE ABLE TO PERSUADE INDIRA GANDHI NOT
TO PROVIDE SUCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, BUT IN RETURN HAD
PROMISED HER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN THE ARMS
EMBARGO POLICY AGAINST PAKISTAN. THIS IS REPORTED
TO HAVE MADE QUITE AN IMPACT, AS INDEED IT WOULD ON
THE AUDIENCE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 11752 180851Z

5. IT IS ANNOYING TO HAVE OUR POLICY VIEWED WITH SUCH
SUSPICION BY SOME PAKS (AS IT IS UNDOUBTEDLY BY SOME INDIANS)
BUT IN MATTERS WHICH HAVE TO DO WITH THE OTHER NEITHER
PAKISTAN NOR INDIA IS ENTIRELY RATIONAL. I SUPPOSE
THAT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS THE ONLY THING THAT WILL STILL
THESE SUSPICIONS IS A CHANGE IN THE POLICY ITSELF. YOU KNOW
HOW I FEEL ABOUT THE ISSUE AND I WON'T BELABOR IT HERE; OUR

DECISION IN ANY EVENT SHOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY WHAT THE
PAKS MAY OR MAY NOT THINK WE TOLD THE INDIANS IN DELHI.
BUT I DO THINK IT IMPORTANT FOR US TO REMAIN CURRENT ON
WHAT IS ON THE MIND OF BHUTTO (AND OTHER PAKS) IN CONNECTION
WITH THE ONE IMPORTANT BILATERAL PROBLEM THE U.S. FACES
HERE.
BYROADE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS SHIPMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ISLAMA11752
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740367-1062
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741226/aaaaawgv.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BHUTTO'S CONCERN OVER PRESS REPORTS FROM INDIA RE ARMS SUPPLY
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PK, IN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005